

REMARKS

Applicants submit this response to the Office Action dated March 15, 2006. Claims 15-17 have been cancelled and claims 60 and 61 are added in compliance with the proposed Examiner's Amendment dated February 8, 2006.

The withdrawal of the rejections of claims 15-18 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph of claims 15 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph is acknowledged.

Claims 15-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as claiming the same invention as that of claims 15-18 of co-pending application Serial No. 10/771,173. In view of the present amendment, applicants submit that this rejection may be withdrawn.

Claims 15-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over Edwards, et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,639,063. In view of the cancellation of claims 15-17 applicants submit that this rejection may be withdrawn.

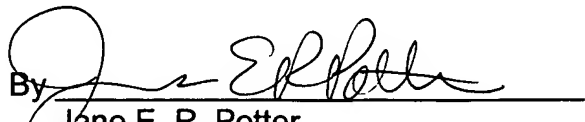
Claim 18 is objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim. In view of the amendment to claim 18, applicants submit that this ground of objection may be withdrawn.

If fees are believed necessary, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 04-0258. A duplicate copy of this document is enclosed.

All of the claims remaining in the application are now believed to be allowable. Favorable consideration and a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

If questions remain regarding this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (206) 628-7650.

Respectfully submitted,
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